



## STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE  
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE



Arthur L. Spada  
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*Deputy Commissioner, Division of State Police*

Statewide, CT.

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Connecticut State Police Detective Receives National Recognition For Child Pornography Investigation**

Connecticut State Police Detective James Smith and United States Postal Inspector Martin Vega, Jr. will be recognized by the National Center of Missing & Exploited Children, for their investigative efforts in breaking an international child pornography case.

Everyday, members of the Connecticut State Police Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force view thousands on images of child pornography that has been seized from pedophiles homes, businesses and computers. These detectives search for investigative leads that would help identify the victims, the perpetrators and the locations where the crimes have taken place.

Connecticut State Police Detective James Smith was the lead investigator of a multi-agency investigation, that lead to the arrest of a Hartford man. This man had videotaped his sexual assaults of two 12-year-old females. The video images were recorded and disseminated throughout a child pornography network across the nation and throughout the world. Detectives Smiths team of investigators identified the victims from school yearbook pictures and arrested the man accused of these heinous acts. As a result of this investigation, several other juvenile victims and adults suspects were also identified.

Tomorrow (Wednesday, May 19, 2004), in Washington DC, Senator Christopher Dodd will be presenting Connecticut State Police Detective James Smith and Postal Inspector Martin Vega, Jr. with the a National Recognition Award from the National Center of Missing & Exploited Children.

**Notes:** Detective Smith is a 10-year veteran of the Connecticut State Police. He has been assigned to the Computer Crimes Unit since 1999. This task force is comprised of State Police Troopers and local police officer that specialize in computer crime investigations. These state and local detectives work together, with federal and international law enforcement officers, to seek out those parties responsible for the crimes against children.

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